

### FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

NOV 12 1997

James W. Roebuck, Treasurer Blue Circle America, Inc. PAC 1800 Parkway Place, Ste. 1200 Marietta, GA 30067

Identification Number: C00285429

Reference: Mid-Year Report (1/1/97-6/30/97)

Dear Mr. Roebuck:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-Schedule B of your report discloses a contribution(s) to Citizens for Petri for the retirement of debts incurred by the 1996 General election campaign; however, it appears that the recipient committee(s) had insufficient debts to warrant such a contribution. Please note that a committee may only designate contributions to retire a candidate's debts if those debts exist.

If the contribution(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. If you have made an excessive contribution, you should either notify the recipient and request a refund of the impermissible amount and/or notify the recipient, in writing, of your redesignation of the contribution. All refunds and redesignations must be made within sixty days of the treasurer's receipt of the contribution. Refunds are reported on Line 16 of the Detailed Summary Page and on Schedule A of the report covering the period during which they are received. Redesignations are reported as memo entries on Schedule B of the report covering the period during which the redesignation is made. 11 CFR §110.2(b)

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the excessive contribution(s), your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration.

-Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) of your report discloses contributions received through what appears to be a payroll deduction plan. Please amend your report to disclose the amount deducted during each payroll period. 11 CFR §104.8(b) Please refer to the enclosed sample of properly reported payroll deductions.

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530. My local number is (202) 219-3580.

Sincerely,

Melissa Hurd

Reports Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

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# PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

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familie payroll deductions only after they have exceeded \$200 per calendar year from an individual.

## IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

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iteraize in-kind contributions on both Schedules A and B so as not to inflate the cash-on-hand amount.

## Payroll Deductions

Once an Individual's deductions aggregate over \$200 in a calendar year, report the total amount deducted from the donor's paychecks during the reporting period on Schedule A. In parentheses Indicate the amount that was deducted each pay period. Instead of sletting a specific date of receipt, write "payroll deduction" under "Date." The other itemized information, including the year-to-date total; must be completed for each donor, 104.8(b).

example: During an election 'year, a corporate manager authorizes her employer to deduct \$16 per pay period (each pay period is two weeks) for the company's SSF. The SSF, which tiles FEC reports on a quarterly schedule, includes the manager's first-quarter contributions (\$90 for six pay periods) as 'unitemized contributions' on Line 11(a)(ii) in the April quarterly report.

By June 30 (the closing date for the July quarterly report), 13 pay periods have passed, and the manager's aggregate contributions are \$195—still below the \$200 itemization threshold. The manager's second-quarter contributions again are included in "unitemized contributions" in the July report.

By September 30 (the closing date for the October quarterly report), 18 pay periods have passed, and the manager's contributions reach \$285. Now the committee itemizes the total contributions received from the manager during the third quarter (\$80), providing the year-to-date total in the appropriate space. (See Item A in the Rustration above.)

#### in-Kind Contributions

When determining whether to itemize en in-kind contribution, follow the same guidelines listed above under "When to Itemize Receipts." See page 8 for information on how to determine the dotter value of an in-kind contribution.

in addition, add the value of the in-kind contribution to the operating expenditures total on Line 21(b) (in order to avoid inflating the cash-orhand amount). 104.13(e)(2).

If the in-kind contribution must be itemized on Schedule A, then it must also be itemized on a Schedule B for operating expenditures. See the illustration at right.

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